संबंधित राज्य सरकारे और स्थानीय प्रशासन जानकार्य रूप से जिम्मेदार है ।

Amount asked for by West Bengal for repair work of National Highways

2463. SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 19.28 crores was asked for by the Government of West Bengal for the repair of the National Highways in the northern part of West Bengal which was badly damaged by floods in July, 1993;

(b) if so, what was the amount sanctioned against the estimate and how much was released to the State Government; and

(c) whether the amount released was adequate to restore the damaged part to traffic-worthy conditions if not what steps are being proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Proposals for Rs. 13.94 crores for the repair of road/bridge works on National Highways damaged by floods during 1993-94 in northern part of West Bengal were received

(b) Estimates amounting to Rs. 6.25 crores were sanctioned for the above repair works and an amount of Rs. 4.19 crores has already been released so far against the sanctioned works.

(c) Works are sanctioned keeping in view the condition of the road, traffic intensity, overall priority of the work and availability of resources etc. and funds are released based on estimates sanctioned and availability of resources. Efforts are made to maintain the National Highways in a traffic-worthy condition within the available resources.

Ports closed for Indian ships in Foreign Countries

2464. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Some Ports closed to Indian ships" as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 4th October, 1994;

(b) if so, whether due to fear of plague epidemic some countries have closed ports for Indian ships;

(c) if so, the present position of Indian ships and ports; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to continue operations at various ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Ports were not closed to Indian ships but port authorities in several countries like Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Quattar, Oman, Yemen, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh had imposed quarantine restrictions on ships calling at their ports from any Indian port.

(c) All restrictions have been withdrawn and complete normalcy has been restored.

(d) The Government took prompt action and all Indian Missions abroad were advised about the international expert opinion as well as the measures taken in India so as to adequately reassure the Governments of these countries about the absence of risk of plague infection through exports from India.

America's Investment in Road Sector in India

2465. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the US is keen to invest 20 billion dollars for expressways in the country;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of such investments;

(c) whether Government have approved the US investment;

(d) the details of Highways on which the investment would be made; and

(e) by when the task is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There has been no such offer received from the U.S.A. in respect of requirement indicated in the question.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Revival of Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd.

2466. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 55 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th July, 1994 and state:

(a) the salient features of the proposal for the revival of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd., which is under the examination of Government;

(b) what is the financial involvement of the revival package; and

(c) what is the time frame for completion of examination of the revival proposal by Government?